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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM The National Crime  
and Violence Test

STATION WTTG-TV

DATE April 25, 1982 9:00 P.M. CITY Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT Full Text

ART LINKLETTER: ...where and when most rapes occur.

JAYNE KENNEDY: All right. Number your test answers form like this. Okay? Here we go with question one. Pick the best answer.

Most rapes occur (a) in dark lonely areas, (b) in the victim's own home, (c) in cars or vans. You have five seconds to answer.

LINKLETTER (a) and (c) are incorrect, although a great many women are raped in cars or vans and in deserted areas. However (b) is the most correct answer to question 1. Most rapes occur in the victim's home, because of easy break-ins or entry gained by false pretenses.

KENNEDY: Okay. Here's question 2. Weapons are used in what percentage of rape assaults? (a) 20 percent of the time, (b) 60 percent of the time, (c) more than 80 percent of the time. You have five seconds to answer.

LINKLETTER: (c) is the correct answer. Weapons such as guns and knives are used to force women to submit in about 60 percent of the cases reported.

KENNEDY: Now question 3. What are your chances of being killed during a rape attack? (a) five percent, (b) 14 percent, (c) more than 30 percent. You have five seconds to answer.

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LINKLETTER: (a) is the correct answer. Most rapists are not homicidal, unless provoked to kill. So the odds are very good, if you keep your cool, you're survive an attack.

KENNEDY: Okay. Let's score part three. For each correct answer, give yourselves two points. A perfect score for this part would be a total of six points.

LINKLETTER: Awareness of danger before an actual attack often gives a woman time to work out a strategy to save herself.

KENNEDY: And that's what we'll be dealing with in part four, avoiding rape. We'll be asking you four questions, so have your test answer form ready.

LINKLETTER: We're going to return to the streets now and observe some dangerous situations, and we'll be testing you on what you think is the best strategy a woman might use to prevent an attack before it starts.

[Scene of woman being accosted]

KENNEDY: Okay. Here's question 1 of part four. Based on the situation we have just witnessed, what would you do to avoid a potential rape? (a) threaten call the police, (b) be courteous, polite, and ask him to stop, (c) stay in control, demand that he leave you alone. You have five seconds.

LINKLETTER: All right. Let's return to our woman at the door and see how she hanled a potentially frightening situation.

[Scene of woman rejecting man]

LINKLETTER: She certainly left no doubt that she didn't want his attention.

KENNEDY: No, she didn't. (a) was incorrect because there was no way for her to carry out a threat at that moment. And if she had screamed for the police, it might have provoked him to violence.

LINKLETTER: Being polite (b) and asking him to stop was also incorrect. For those kind of guys, politeness doesn't work. They need a strong, positive approach, like N-O.

KENNEDY: So (c) is your correct answer to question 1. Face the guy directly, be assertive and demand that he leave you alone. If you're not firm right off, he'll know you're an easy target.

LINKLETTER: Okay. Question 2, 3 and 4 in part four are more fast true-or-false questions to test your knowledge of how to avoid rape. And each correct answer will be worth three points.

KENNEDY: Question 2. If you're alone and a stranger comes to your door, lie to him so he'll believe that you're not alone. True or false?

That's true. As you approach the door, you might yell, "I'll get it, Honey." That makes the stranger think that you're not alone.

LINKLETTER: Question 3. On your way home you think you're being followed. You should turn and aggressively confront the person following you. True or false?

False. If possible, go as quickly as you can to the nearest place where there are likely to be people. There is safety in numbers. By confronting him, you could provoke him.

KENNEDY: Question 4. If a stranger comes to your door asking to use the phone to call an ambulance, you must let him in. True or false?

That's false. It may be a real emergency or it may be a trick to get into your door. Instead, offer to make the call for him, while the stranger stays outside your locked door.

LINKLETTER: One of the most common ways a rapist learns if a woman is alone or not at home is that simple everyday link to the world of friends and business, the telephone.

KENNEDY: Now, Art and I are going to give you just a brief telephone tactic drama to show you how to keep a rapist from learning that you are home alone.

Hello.

LINKLETTER: Is Mr. Valman at home?

KENNEDY: No, he is out of town for a week.

LINKLETTER: Oh. When will he be back?

KENNEDY: Not until the 28th. Can I take a message?

LINKLETTER: No. No, thanks. I'll call back.

Now I know she's alone. Okay? That was obviously the wrong way to handle a call from a stranger. He could be coming by anytime with rape on his mind.

Here's the right way to take those calls.

KENNEDY: Hello.

LINKLETTER: Is Mr. Valman at home?

KENNEDY: Yes, but he's in the shower. Who's calling, please?

LINKLETTER: Just an old friend. I was going to surprise him.

KENNEDY: Well, may I take a message?

Now, that's the right way to handle a call from someone who will not identify himself.

LINKLETTER: One more telephone tip. If you receive harassing or obscene phone calls, hang up immediately. The caller wants your emotional response. Don't give it.

KENNEDY: Now, it would also be a very good idea to rehearse these telephone tactics with your children.

LINKLETTER: Now let's total our scores for part four of our test....

KENNEDY: And that brings us to part five of our National Crime and Violence Test. Here we go with five fast true-or-false questions dealing with the rapist.

LINKLETTER: Question 1. Most rapists plan their attacks, like any other criminal. True or false?

That's true. Most rapists don't commit their attacks spontaneously. They've planned it in advance.

KENNEDY: Number 2. Most rapists attack at great speed because they are fearful of being caught. True or false?

False. In most cases, once they strike, most are beyond rational behavior, and have little fear of being caught.

LINKLETTER: Question 3. Most rapists are under the influence of alcohol or drugs when they attack. True or false?

True. Alcohol and/or drugs tend to heighten the irrational behavior of rapists.

KENNEDY: 4. Most rapists have the ability of a normal sexual outlet. True or false?

That is true. The majority are married or living with a woman. And this issue is not sex. Rape is an act of aggression.

LINKLETTER: Question 5. Most rapists will attempt to return and rape the same woman. True or false?

False. It almost never happens. Although rapists threaten to return, it is usually no more than a weapon to keep women silent, which is one of the main reasons women are fearful of reporting their attacks.

KENNEDY: Now let's the score the last five questions....

LINKLETTER: For years, rape has been a taboo subject, as we all know. Only recently has this brutal act come out of the closet. But some of us still believe in a great many of the myths that persist about the act of rape itself.

KENNEDY: So in a moment we're going to test you on some of the myths about rape. And then we'll go on with a test about another facet that you should know about rapists.

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LINKLETTER: It's time to begin part six of the National Crime and Violence Test on rape. In our next test, you'll find out whether or not you still believe in any of the myths about rape.

KENNEDY: We're starting off part six with five true-or-false questions.

LINKLETTER: Question 1. Most women are asking for it, really; or, in some seductive way, are inviting attack by the way they dress or behave. True or false?

KENNEDY: That's false, because the act of rape is not motivated by sexual desire or allure. It is an act of violence against the woman.

LINKLETTER: Question 2. Most rape victims could have avoided being attacked. True or false?

KENNEDY: False. Most rape attacks come as a total surprise.

LINKLETTER: 3. Most rapists always go after pretty young women. True or false?

KENNEDY: Question 3 is false. All women are potential targets for rapists, whether they be 8 or 80, and no matter what their appearance or race.

LINKLETTER: Question 4. For purposes of revenge, many women falsely accuse men of rape. True or false?

KENNEDY: That's false. Revengeful women think twice

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before crying rape, because it's so difficult to get a rape conviction, even when an actual rape takes place.

LINKLETTER: And 5. Most rape victims, even though not killed, suffer serious physical injury. True or false?

KENNEDY: Now, 5 is also false. Many rape victims do not show a visible physical injury. Because that's because many were forced to submit without physical force because their attacker threatened them and threatened their lives with a gun or a knife.

LINKLETTER: In other words, a gun at your head doesn't leave a mark.

KENNEDY: And did you notice that all five correct answers to part six were false? We constructed the test this way to try to dispel some of the myths about rape which still persist.

LINKLETTER: Now let's score....

KENNEDY: I am sure that everyone would like to know more facts about the rapists themselves.

LINKLETTER: And that's what we'll deal with in the next five true-or-false questions in part six.

KENNEDY: And incidentally, don't worry if you make some wrong answers. Because whether right or wrong, you will be learning something very, very valuable here today.

LINKLETTER: All right. Here we go.

KENNEDY: Question 1. Most rapists are employed and have a high school education or better. True or false?

That's true. Most rapists have an education and are employed. In other words, rapists do not appear to be mentally ill, at least to the untrained observer.

LINKLETTER: 2. Most rapists are repeat offenders. True or false?

That's true. That's why women must report their rape to the police, so we can get those men off the streets.

KENNEDY: Question 3. Most rapists are lonely men without families or loved ones. True or false?

That's false. Most rapists are married, with their own families. They could appear to be the most ordinary of men.

LINKLETTER: Now we come to 4. Men who rape often have a background of other types of criminal behavior. True or false?

The answer is true. Most rapists have been in trouble with the law for other crimes. Thus, once again, we point out the fact that a rapist is a menace to society.

KENNEDY: And Question 5. Almost all rapes are acts of violence motivated by hostility against women. True or false?

That is true. Men who rape are psychologically disturbed and are out to hurt and brutalize women, any woman. Therefore, women who are raped must report their attacks so that we can catch these dangerous men and properly attend to their illness.

LINKLETTER: Okay. Now let's score....

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LINKLETTER: Jayne, you know that when a woman is raped, the attack isn't really over when the man leaves. The woman's hurt goes on and on.

KENNEDY: And that's why it is so important for a woman to know exactly what to do after the attack.

LINKLETTER: What's what we'll be testing you in part seven, what to do immediately after being raped and in the long emotional term that follows.

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LINKLETTER: We're back for part seven of the National Crime and Violence Test on rape. In a moment, we'll be asking you questions about what you would do immediately following a rape attack. And to others of you, what would you do to help your loved ones after a rape attack?

KENNEDY: Because the chances are so good that sometime in our lives we'll be called on to help a rape victim.

LINKLETTER: And how well we respond will greatly aid the victim's recovery, possibly help the police catch and convict the rapist.

[Rape dramatization]

LINKLETTER: He's gone at last. She feels totally ravished, beyond coping. She wants to die now that it's over. But now she must gather strength and go on. What she does next will to a large degree either help her continue her normal life or possibly leave her emotionally scarred for years to come.

KENNEDY: What would you do?

LINKLETTER: Here we go with part seven, after rape. We'll be asking you three multiple-choice questions to test you on what you would do immediately after a rape attack, or if you were called upon to help someone who had been raped.

KENNEDY: Are you ready? Okay. Use your best judgment. Here is Question number 1. Immediately after being raped, what is the first thing the victim should do? (a) gather evidence for the police, (b) go to a safe place, (c) take a measure to prevent pregnancy.

(a) is incorrect. Let the police gather evidence of your attack. So this means touch nothing. They might need it for clues to convict the rapist. (c) is also incorrect. Later, you can talk about your doctor about measures to prevent pregnancy. So (b) is the most correct answer.

LINKLETTER: As soon as you're able, go to a safe place. For example, if the attacker forced you to go a strange and isolated area, try to remember the location so you can lead the police back there later.

KENNEDY: Here's Question number 2. After you're safe, what is the most important thing that you should do? (a) write down a description of the rapist, (b) call a friend, (c) call the police.

(a) and (b) are good answers, but they are not the first things to do. The most correct answer is (c), call the police. The sooner they arrive, the safer you'll be, and the chance that they'll catch your attacker will certainly improve.

LINKLETTER: Then call a trusted friend to be with you. You'll need that support and help in the coming hours. And then, while it's fresh in your mind, write down the best description you can of your attacker for the police.

KENNEDY: Question number 3. After calling the police, what should you do next? (a) get medical attention, (b) take a sedative, (c) take a bath and douche.

LINKLETTER: Until the victim is examined by a doctor, she should not bathe or douche, nor should she take a sedative or a drink. So (b) and (c) are both incorrect.

KENNEDY: Answer (c), bathing or douching, destroys the evidence. And answer (b), taking a sedative or a drink, will only dull your wits. And you must be able to give the police and the doctor a coherent account of exactly what happened.

LINKLETTER: (a) is the correct answer. It is most important she be examined by a doctor, even if she has no apparent physical injuries. The examining physician's report



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will provide the police with evidence of sexual assault and evaluate risks of possible VD or pregnancy.

KENNEDY: It is imperative that women who are raped report their attacker to the police. Rape is probably the most unreported crime in America. If more victims would aid the police, most rapists might be off the streets.

LINKLETTER: Remember that being raped is nothing to be ashamed of. It's a savage, violent assault.

KENNEDY: Let's score part seven....

LINKLETTER: Before we go on, we're going to ask Pauline Marzet (?) to join us again with some advice on how all of us can help victims of rape after their immediate terror.

KENNEDY: Pauline, now you have worked with many, many, many rape victims. What feelings and problems should the loved ones of the rape victim be sensitive to?

PAULINE MARZET: After a woman has been raped, it's quite common for her to fear that the man may return. Some victims have nightmares or flashbacks long after the assaults have taken place. Others are afraid to return to where it happened, even to their own homes or apartments. All our symptoms of what is called or what is known as the rape trauma syndrome. And they need not be afraid.

KENNEDY: How do most of the victims feel about sex afterwards?

MARZET: They have normal sex. With some of them, it takes a little time. They do lose interest, but their sexual activity will come back afterwards. But that doesn't mean that they don't want to be held or that they don't want a compassionate man around.

LINKLETTER: Thank you so much, Pauline.

[Applause]

LINKLETTER: Now is the time for the total of the scores....

KENNEDY: ...If your score seems a bit low, just hold on. This is only the preliminary final score. We're going to have one more final test to determine your grand score and rating for the National Crime and Violence Test on rape.

LINKLETTER: So stay with us, because we'll be testing you not on what you know, but on what you actually do to protect yourself and your loved ones from rape and other violent crimes.

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LINKLETTER: Here we go with part eight of the National Crime and Violence Test. The following personal-inventory yes-or-no questions deal with not what you know, but what you really do in your life to prevent rape and other violent assaults from happening to you and/or your loved ones.

KENNEDY: Now, for each question you answer with a yes, you earn five points, which you add to your preliminary score....

LINKLETTER: 1. Do you always lock the doors and windows of your house when home alone? Yes or no? If you answered yes, give yourself five bonus points. If you answered no, subtract five points from your preliminary score.

KENNEDY: 2. When returning home, do you actually ask your companion, taxidriver or whomever, to see you safely to your door? Yes or no? If yes, add five points....

3. Do you and your neighbors actually have an agreement to watch out for each other? Yes or no?

LINKLETTER: 4. Are you always alert on the street to possible danger? Yes or no?

KENNEDY: Five, have you ever made an inspection of your home to make sure all doors, windows, and entry points are secure from illegal entry? Yes or no?

LINKLETTER: 6. When you move into a new home, do you always have all door locks rekeyed? Yes or no?

KENNEDY: 7. You drive to town for a movie, or whatever, and it's still daylight, you park your car. Now, the question is, do you actually consider how safe you'll be when you return to your parked car after dark? Yes or no?

LINKLETTER: 8. Do you always drive with your doors locked in danger areas, like gang territory or dark streets? Yes or no?

KENNEDY: And 9. Do you trust your gut feelings about potentially dangerous situations and take assertive action while there's time? Yes or no?

LINKLETTER: And 10. Do you have a list of emergency telephone numbers by or on your phone? And if you have children, do they know how to use the phone in an emergency? Yes or no?

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LINKLETTER: ...The questions and answers, in particular, point out the importance of your taking personal

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responsibility for protecting yourself from crime, and not depending solely on our overburdened police departments.

KENNEDY: And when you do take personal responsibility, your life and the lives of your loved ones will be even more secure.

[Scoring recap]

KENNEDY: A perfect grand score would be 140 points. If you scored more than 105 points, you have a greater awareness than the average person on how to protect yourself against rape.

LINKLETTER: If your grand score was between 104 and 70 points, you're only minimally safe from rape and other violent crimes.

KENNEDY: Now, if your grand score was below 70 points, you could be an easy target for violent criminals or rapists. Better watch out and become more aware of how to protect yourself.

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LINKLETTER: Here we go with the final non-scoring part of the National Crime and Violence Test on rape. We're going to flash three photographs on your screen, and the faces you'll see are ordinary American men, with one big exception.

KENNEDY: That's right. One of the men has been convicted of multiple rapes, kidnaping, and murder.

LINKLETTER: This is man number one. This is number two. And this is number three.

Now may I see a show of hands, please. Is the convicted rapist number one?....

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LINKLETTER: That's the guy. If you picked him from the other two citizens, you're either lucky or you have an exceptional memory.

KENNEDY: Well, I think that that was Stephen Judy, wasn't it?

LINKLETTER: It was, Jayne. The State of Indiana executed Stephen Judy for murder in March of this year. He began his career of rape and violence and murder at 14 years of age. He impersonated a Boy Scout to gain entry into women's homes at 14.

KENNEDY: Now, we asked you to try to identify a known rapist to point out that it is nearly impossible to distinguish a

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rapist by his appearance just from the average person. Now, that's why you have to be especially cautious -- not paranoid, but cautious and aware.

LINKLETTER: Well, it's time to look at the results of our crime counter. And we discover, statistically, the number of violent crimes committed against Americans while we were taking this National Crime and Violence Test. In the past 60 minutes, based on 1980 statistics, there were:

KENNEDY: Ten rapes, 14 attempted rapes, and nearly a quarter million rape incidents a year.

LINKLETTER: I guess we not only have to keep fighting crime, but it's imperative to do something about the ills in our society, the ills which cause crime and violence.

KENNEDY: That is so true, Art. And I think that there is something else important that we should all remember. Despite all of the crime and violence going on around us, we must not let fear of crime rob us of something very, very important.

LINKLETTER: And that's trust and respect, caring about people. So please never fear crime to the extent that you exclude good, decent people from your life. After all, thank God, most of us are good and decent people.

KENNEDY: Thank you, Art. We all needed that.

LINKLETTER: No matter how you scored on our National Crime and Violence Test on rape, you're all really winners because by taking this National Crime and Violence Test you've most likely increased your awareness and knowledge of how you, personally, might better fight back against crime.

KENNEDY: I know I have.

And thank you all for being with us....